

# India – Sikkim

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The India – Sikkim GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components India could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The India – Sikkim GYTS was a school-based survey of students in standards 8-10, conducted in 2001. A two-stage

cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Sikkim. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 85.4%, and the overall response rate was 85.4%. A total of 2236 students participated in the India – Sikkim GYTS.

#### Prevalence

24.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 31.9%, Female = 15.5%)  
54.7% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 68.1%, Female = 38.3%)  
18.0% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 24.1%, Female = 10.5%)  
37.9% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 45.5%, Female = 28.6%)  
46.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

#### Knowledge and Attitudes

60.6% think boys and 50.0% think girls who smoke or chew tobacco have more friends  
59.7% think boys and 42.0% think girls who smoke or chew tobacco look more attractive

#### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

33.7% usually smoke at home  
74.1% buy cigarettes in a store  
87.5% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

#### Environmental Tobacco Smoke

72.2% live in homes where others smoke  
77.3% are around others who smoke in places outside their home  
38.4% think smoking should be banned from public places  
29.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
28.9% have most or all friends who smoke

#### Cessation - Current Smokers

27.2% want to stop smoking  
8.3% tried to stop smoking during the past year  
10.7% have ever received help to stop smoking

#### Media and Advertising

82.2% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days  
85.9% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days  
73.3% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers and magazines, in the past 30 days  
26.1% have an object with a cigarette brand logo  
11.7% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

#### School

21.0% had been taught in class during the past year about the dangers of smoking  
21.0% had discussed in class during the past year reasons why people their age smoke  
24.3% had been taught in class during the past year the effects of tobacco use

#### Highlights

- 55% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 18% currently smoke cigarettes; 38% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is very high – 7 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke; almost 8 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places.
- 3 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Almost 4 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- 1 in 4 smokers want to quit.
- 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards in the past 30 days; 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers and magazines in the past 30 days.